

and any find of the true *S. humeralis* in Kent (see below) is decidedly notable. I was therefore surprised to detect an example of that species among some insects sent by my correspondent K.C. Lewis from the woods near Bexley. On learning of its interest, Mr Lewis most kindly insisted that I retain the specimen. It was taken by sweeping tall grass at the edge of a field bordering Chalk Wood, 24.v.1994. To find a *Synchita* at large is of course very exceptional, and one must suppose that the insect had been induced, probably by sultry weather, to emerge from its normal habitat under bark and take flight.

The previous certain Kent record is of a specimen bred by our Editor, Paul Sokoloff, from the fungus *Daldinia concentrica* on dead and dying birch at Keston, March 1984. There are in the literature two much older records for the county; but as I have shown (Allen, 1964: 41), the first – Tunbridge Wells 1882 – may really have referred to *S. separanda*, while the second has proved erroneous.

References: Allen, A.A., 1964. The genus *Synchita* Hellw. (Col.: Colydiidae) in Britain; with an addition to the fauna and a new synonymy. *Entomologist's mon. Mag.* **100**: 36-42; Sokoloff, P.A., 1985. [Exhibit at Br. Ent. Nat. Hist. Soc. Annual Exhibition, 27th October 1984] *Proc. Trans. Br. ent. nat. Hist. Soc.*, **18**: 6.

– A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

Foodplants of *Coleophora lusciniapennella* (Treitschke) (Lep.: Coleophoridae) in Lancashire (VC 60)

Whilst searching for moth larvae on the Lytham St Annes sand-dune nature reserve in Lancashire on 25th May 1994 I was amazed at the proliferation of *Coleophora lusciniapennella* (= *viminetella* Zell.) larvae in their cases on *Salix repens*. On the reserve, a single seedling of *Betula pendula* (about four feet high) showed signs of *Coleophora* feeding on the leaves.

After a short search two cases resembling those of *Coleophora lusciniapennella* were found actively feeding on the Birch. These were reared and subsequently produced two *Coleophora lusciniapennella*. *A Field Guide to the Smaller British Lepidoptera* (Emmet. A.M., 1988) makes reference to *lusciniapennella* feeding on *Betula*, in Scotland but this appears not to have been noted in England before. Whether the eggs had been laid on the Birch or the larvae had just moved onto it from the *Salix* is not known, but there was no shortage of *Salix repens* in the immediate vicinity of the Birch seedlings.– S.M. PALMER, 137 Lightfoot Lane, Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire PR4 0AH.

***Bankesia douglasii* Stainton (Lep.: Psychidae) in Hampshire**

N.F. Neal reports *Bankesia douglasii* Staint. new to Kent (*Ent. Rec.* **106**: 98). This species was discovered by A.H. Stainton near Warsash, on the eastern shore of Southampton Water in 1867. It was last seen near the end of the century (B. Goater, *the Butterflies and Moths of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight*, 1974).

I'm pleased to report it has returned – or has it simply been overlooked?

My son, Luke, caught one flying in our garden in morning sunshine on 20th March 1994. I did not recognise it at the time. It did look a bit like *Eriocrania sparrmannella* Bosc. (to me anyway) and its flight was not unlike that species. I mentioned this to my friend Dave Appleton, who almost at once took one on his way to work at Segensworth, three miles from its ancient haunts, on 10th March this year. Inspired by this, I took my morning cuppa to the bottom of the garden and found it flying (as originally reported) in sunshine from shortly after 7.30am for about an hour and a half, but only in near calm conditions. I found no cases, nor was there any obvious place to look. It wouldn't be an easy species to find if you were not local. I wonder if there is any significance in its re-discovery near a railway station?— RICHARD DICKSON, 39 Serpentine Road, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 7ED.

***Agrilus sinuatus* (Ol.) (Col.: Buprestidae) at Tunbridge Wells, Kent**

On 25th August 1994 I found a single specimen of this attractive metallic purple beetle on the edge of Folly Shaw, a small piece of undisturbed woodland in Hilbert Recreation Ground, Tunbridge Wells. It was sitting conspicuously on nettle foliage, having presumably been washed down from nearby hawthorns by a recent shower. This species would appear to be a relatively new arrival in this area, since there are no examples in the comprehensive collection of local Coleoptera assembled by R.A. Crowson between 1938 and 1947 and held at Tunbridge Wells Museum.

– IAN C. BEAVIS, 104 St. James' Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Die Schmetterlinge Baden-Württembergs. Edited by Günter Ebert. **Band (volume) 3**, Nachtfalter (moths) I. 518pp., 344 colour photographs, 166 diagrams and drawings, 64 distribution maps, hardback, size 17x24cm. Price DM 79. **Band 4**, Nachtfalter II. 535pp., 488 colour photographs, 204 diagrams and drawings, 122 distribution maps, hardback, size 17x24cm. Price DM 79. Verlag Eugen Ulmer, 1994.

Following on the publication in 1991 of the sumptuous first two volumes covering the butterflies (*Tagfalter*) of the south-western German state of Baden-Württemberg, work on this opulent and monumental series has continued with the moths (*Nachtfalter*). In December 1994, the first two volumes, embracing the Hepialidae, Cossidae, Zygaenidae, Limacodidae, Psychidae, Thryididae, Bombycidae, Endromidae, Lasciocampidae, Lemoniidae, Saturnidae, Sphingidae, Notodontidae, Dilobidae, Thaumetopoeidae, Drepanidae, Thyatiridae, Lymantriidae, Nolidae and Ctenuchidae, were published and launched at a reception given by the publisher in the State Natural History Museum in Karlsruhe, Germany, attended by Günter Ebert and his co-authors, and the State Minister for Nature Conservation. It is the financial support it has received from the latter's ministry and the state museum which has kept the price of these